MEMOIRS
OF THE
Mint, and *Queen's-Bench*
OR,
A true Account of the Government, Politics, Cu
Humours, and other Surprizing Curiosities of those Inchanted P
Never publish'd before.

WITH A
CHARACTER
OF THE
MARSHAL
In Several
LETTERS to a Person of Qua
Also a Poem to the *Marshall* by Mr. T
to Her *MAJESTY*, occasion'd by a General
Gentlemenen on the Place, to my Lord Chief J

——— *Facilis Descensus Averni;*
Sed revocare Gradum, superasque evadere ad Auras,
Hoc Opus, hic Labor est. Virgil.

Enter'd and paid the Duty at the Stamp-Office
Parliament.

London: Printed by J. Smith, in Nevil's Alley in
and Sold by John Nutt, near Stationers Hall,
Where also may be had A

MEMOIRS

OF THE

Mint and Queen's-Bench

OR

A true Account of the Government, Politics, Cabals, Humours, and other Surprising Curiosities of a late Inclosed Prison Never publish'd before.

WITH A

CHARACTER

OF THE

MARSHAL

In several

LETTERS to a Person of Quality.

Also a Poem to the Marshal by Mr. Tate, Poet Laureat to Her Majesty, occasion'd by a General PETITION of Gentlemen on the Place, to my Lord Chief Justice.

Enter'd and paid the Duty at the Stamp-Office according to Act of Parliament.

To the truly Worthy

William Broughton, Esq;

MARSHALL

OF THE

Queen's-Bench.

SIR,

I *TAKE not the Freedom of affixing your Name to these Trifles, from an Imagination that they are worthy the Perusal of a Person of your sound Sense, and solid Judgment, but as an Instance, to convince those who are generaly prejudic'd against all Persons who have the Command of Prisoners, that your mild Government, and engaging Conversation have such Charms, as may exert a* Ludicrous Fancy, *even under the Misfortune of* Confinement. *I need not inform the World how well you are Descended, what an Eminent Merchant you have been, how many Thousands Master of, till by Storms, Tempests, and other unavoidable Accidents, you lost immense Sums in a short Time; nor with what Fort*

of Honour and Probity your Character *always Shin'd: To these, none who knew you formerly are Strangers: What I shall briefly insist upon, is your most excellent Management of that* Post *you have so long Possest. Nor is it a little Satisfaction to me, that your Merits transcend the reach of Flattery, and by Consequence vindicate me from all suspition of that Crime, since it is universally acknowledg'd, that your Conduct in Point of Prudence, Generosity, Compassion. &c. not only much surpasses all that ever was discover'd in your Predecessors, but 'tis also to be fear'd, will never be Imitated by those who shall succeed you, by Reason few who are truly* Ingenuous, *will risk the Blemish of coming short of so Bright a Pattern of Wisdom and Goodness. Tho' your Power is very extensive in its own Nature, yet you render it Otherwise to your self, in strictly Limiting it by the Rules of Honour and Equity. Your Demands for the Liberty of the Rules are very Easie, if we consider the great Value of it; and 'tis but Reason you shou'd have Something for so great a Benefit, on account of the Hazzard you run of Troubles and Expences in Law-Suits, notwithstanding the Securities given you. So far are you from* Insulting *any under your Power, that you treat all Gentlemen, with the same Civility and Respect, as cou'd be shewn 'em in their most Flourishing Circumstances; and so wide from Conversing with any to their Expence, that you are continually Entertaining several at your own Table; Nay, often have advanc'd Money to your own Prisoners, under pressing Exigencies, and even after you have been Abus'd by others for the same Generosity. You have forgiven your own Fees and Chamber-Rent to many, to make their Discharge more easie; and are always ready to assist such as apply themselves to you, to bring their Affairs to an happy Conclusion; seeming more pleas'd to loose* Customers *for Chamber-Rent, &c. when to their Ease and Comfort, than Others are of Gaining 'em: Nay, so extreme Compassionate are you to the Unfortunate, that you have frequently advis'd 'em, when they have proffer'd Gold for the Liberty of the Rules, first to offer it to their Creditors, to try if it might not Compound for their Discharge: Hence it is, that whereas former* Marshalls, *(from a Consciousness of their Barbarous Usuage) have not dar'd to come Home without a Guard, all the Gentlemen now are ready to venture their Lives in your Defence. Shou'd any Reflect that this Lenity towards the* Debtor, *proceeds from a meer Easiness of Nature, and at the same time void of Equity to the* Creditor; *'Tis Answer'd, that*

your

your wise Management has tended more to the Benefit of the Creditor by far, than that of any of your Predecessors; except the Rifling a Debtor to his very Skin, can be thought a proper Method to Inable and Encourage him to become Solvent; and whereas former Marshalls *readily quitted Securities for Greater Sums, not regarding whether the Debtor run away next Day, you take care, (where you cannot depend on their Principles) of other Substantial Security; and certainly while you prevent Knaves, none but those of a Barbarous Nature, will condemn your Indulgence to Honest Gentlemen. But as the Brightest Virtues are oftnest oppos'd by Calumny, so your Merit must have been less to be absolutely free from it. Yet upon examining into all Reflections, which appear to have any shadow of Ground for 'em, I find 'em wholly to arise, either from such who have abus'd their Liberty, and thereby have exacted the more Severity from you, in your own Defence; or from Prevarications of your Under Officers, which (on notice given) you immediately Rectify, or else from Party-Misrepresentations: An Instance of the first happen'd some time since, in a Person who attempted to break out of the Bench, yet even to Him, you remitted great part of the Rigour in your Power to impose, and after the most Ingrateful Returns for your Generosity towards him: And I cannot in Honour decline the detecting an Aspersion cast on you in Relation to the last: Which was, that upon Choice for Parliament Men, you shou'd threaten those under your Power with close Confinement, if they Voted not for Mr.* Halsey, *which not only to my Knowledge was false in every particular, but I also heard you mention Sir* George Matthews *with much Respect, with which (in Justice to your fair Management) I acquainted him. To conclude, Sir, a Character might be much inlarg'd upon; When you found the Severity of the Times, begun to reduce Unfortunate Gentlemen so far, that without much straitning 'em, you cou'd not exact so much from 'em, as the support of your Post requir'd; rather than offer at a Thing (tho' in Justice you might have done it) so repugnant to your Sweet and Compassionate Temper, you sought to Resign it; yet like a tender Father, who provides for his Children after his Decease, you propos'd another Gentleman to supply your Room, whom first you oblig'd to follow exactly those Measures your self had taken, with all those at present in the Place. As an Irrefragable Argument, that all the Above carries an Air with it of the strictest Truth, (and of which no Age affords a Precedent) on*

first

The DEDICATION.

first Notice that you intended to Resign, a General Petition *from the Gentlemen of the Place, was deliver'd to my Lord Chief Justice* Parker, *Intimating the high Satisfaction they have enjoy'd from the Favourable Management of your Station, and Hopes of your Continuation; frequent Complaints have been made by Gentlemen here against your Predecessors, but never 'till now has been offer'd such Demonstration of their Respect and Esteem. Thus Sir, in all your Transactions you have approv'd your Self, so Just, Generous, Curteous, Kind and Charitable, that you have appear'd in a special manner to be appointed by* Providence *for this Post, in Compassion to the Sufferings of the* Unfortunate. *As (amongst many others) has been Experienc'd by,*

Sir,

Your most Oblig'd,

Humble Servant,

M. SMITH.

TO

TO

William Broughton, Esq;

MARSHALL

OF THE

Queen's-Bench.

Occasion'd by a PETITION of the Gentlemen of the Place, to the Right Honble the Lord Chief Justice.

WHEN *Ovid* was to Cruel Exile sent,
With Him the *Roman* Muse to *Pontus* went;
But much surpriz'd to find (when thither come)
Scythia less Savage than her Native *Rome*,
So *Mine*, allarm'd with dreadful Fears before,
Imagin'd *Southwark* was a *Scythian* Shore.
But to the Gen'rous MARSHAL's Presence brought,
We soon recanted that mistaken Thought;
The *Muse* with his obliging Looks was pleas'd,
But when she heard him speak (with Rapture seiz'd)
She bless'd the *Charming Tongue* that cou'd dispense,
In *Courtly Language*, Oracles of Sense;
Then whisper'd in mine Ear——

To William Broughton, *Esq;*

Take Courage *Bard*, once more our Joys are crown'd,
We have a second *Patron* here, a second *Dorset* found.
The *First* to *Thee*, *Great Britain's Lawrel* gave,
But *THIS* Releasment from a *Living Grave*.
When for *Church-Service* to *Confinement* run,
And *Wretchedly*, yet *Gloriously* undone.
O therefore to your silent Cell retire,
To sing him Thanks, then break your *Luckless Lyre*.

No *Forc'd Excuse*, for this *Address* we plead,
No *Pow'rful Friend* engage to Intercede;
This Priv'ledge does of Right to Us belong,
When *Signal Merit* mounts above the Throng,
Poets must pay the Tribute of their *Song*.
When *Duty* Challenges this *Just Respect*,
'Tis Forfeit of our *Charter* to neglect.

On such *Endowments* how cou'd She enlarge,
Endowments worthy of a *Nobler Charge*;
A *Genius* for *Sublimer* Station born,
Desert that might *Great Britain's* State adorn.
But such is *Angel's* condescending Love,
For *Mortal's* Aid, they quit the Bow'rs Above,

Then

Then ſhun the wealthy Seats, where *Grandeur* dwells,
For the poor *Guardianſhip* of *Cottages* and *Cells*.

Your *Candour*, Sir, this Sally muſt excuſe,
Of an Oblig'd and much Inamour'd *Muſe*,
Who now (tranſported) ſees above Her Banks
Your *Southwark* ſwell, and thus reſounds her Thanks.

All who before my Ruſtic *Seat* deſpis'd,
Confeſs Me now *Reform'd* and *Civiliz'd*;
AUGUSTA boaſts her Wealth and ſtately Tow'rs,
My *Burrough* Triumphs that a *BROUGHTON* 's Ours:
For *Honeſty* we were Renown'd before,
The Nat'ral Product of our Southern Shore,
But now Improv'd to Senſe and Manners too,
Refin'd as e'er in *Covent-Garden* grew;
Our *Thames* can now what *Tyber* ne'er cou'd boaſt
Polite Inhabitants on either Coaſt.

As in a *Province* by a *Vice-Roy* Sway'd,
A Gentle *Ruler* is by all Obey'd,
Oppreſs'd by former *Tyrants*, 'tis with Fear,
Thoſe *Subjects* muſt of a Succeſſor hear;

And

To William Broughton, Esq;

And some Superior *Potentate* Address,
Renown'd for *Generous Pity* to *Distress*;
Your frighten'd *Client*, so submit their Cause,
To the chief *Guardian* of *Great Britain*'s Laws;
Humbly Imploring *YOU* may still retain
Your *Government* — or if those *Hopes* are vain,
(As * *LOVE* is apt to think its *Fears* are *True*)
Their Second *Wish* is for Another *YOU*.

* Res est solliciti plena Timoris Amor. *Ovid.*

N. TATE, *Poet-Laureat to Her* Majesty.

To Mr. SMITH.

LUxuriant Fancy! Nothing can Controul,
Or Daunt the Vig'rous Sallies of your Soul;
In vain your *Body* was a while Confin'd,
The *Globe* can set no Limits to your *Mind*:
Few have such stanch Philosophy Confest,
To *Laugh* at *Injuries*, and make *Restraint* a *Jest*.
Such *Bright Converse* as yours may change our Laws,
Or Cruel Creditors, will drop their Cause;
Nay, some for *That*, *Insolvency* may Feign,
And count their *Loss of Liberty*, their *Gain*.
The *Mint* (as is in Ancient Records told)
Was once the Office, for Impressing Gold,
But now the *Tower* must to that submit,
For Coining a much Nobler Metal, *Wit*.
Since you're with Honour now discharg'd, hast o'er,
And Sprightly *Wit* to its Native Clime restore;
Or *Covent-Garden* will be soon Forestall'd,
And *Southwark* the *Beau Monde*, hereafter Call'd.

Rob. Hall.

MEMOIRS

OF THE

Mint and *Queen's-Bench*, &c.

LETTER I.

SIR,

NOthing can be a more agreeable Task, than what you have engag'd me in, *viz.* to give you an Account of the Affairs of this World, (known to that part of *Europe* you dwell in, by the Name of the *Queen's-Bench*) and which I shall prove in a following Letter, to be a diſtinct World from yours. But leaſt you ſhou'd think my Arrival hi ther, as Romantic as his was, who invented a Machine to moune him into the World in the Moon, I'll give you as rational an Account of my Proceeding, as the Nature of the thing will bear. It was not from any Report I had receiv'd of the Beauty, Magnificence, or Wealth of the Place, or of the Learning or Politeneſs of the Inhabitants; that I was tempted to this Viage, nor really ſo much as a fixt Intention, I had at that inſtant for Travelling; but at the Inſtigation of ſome Friends, who were (it ſeems) more ſollicitous for the Enlargement of my Underſtanding, than they found me inclin'd to, I was (in a manner) Spirited hither; for a Commiſſioner for the Peopling theſe Territories, putting on Humane Shape, whiſper'd a few hard Words in mine Ear, in a ſurprizing Dialect, and at the ſame time produc'd a Parchment Scrol, which in Magical Notes contain'd a Charm too ſtrong, for all my Vertue to oppoſe; the Force whereof immediately put my reluctant Vehicle into a progreſſive Motion. Our firſt Stage was to his own Seat, where, beſides all other Civilities, He

did me the Honour of placing his own Guards upon me, a Favour I cou'd willingly have excus'd, but that his Curteſy preſs'd it upon me. Liquor flow'd in abundance, not only to me, but amongſt all his Attendance alſo, and (indeed) he conferr'd the Honour upon me of Treating them all; but I found his prihcipal Kindneſs conſiſted, in endeavouring to Lighten me all he cou'd, for the greater eaſe in my Paſſage; the End of which was (after I had diſcharg'd his Houſe, and my ſelf of all I had about me) to bring me to an Inchanted Caſtle, call'd (as I have ſince learn'd) the *Marſhalſea*; and there, He gave me to underſtand, his Commiſſion ended. The various Spectacles in this Place were amazing, in one Place you hear a Fiddle, in another a Groan; here a Piper, there a Penitent; in another place a fat Baud, and after her a Skelleton, at the Head of fifty walking Diſeaſes, tho I rarely met a fighting Face, yet there's ſcarce a Man, that is not a thouſand ſtrong, and what is ſtrange, he feeds all theſe, while he ſtarves himſelf. Within you hear the Chinking of Irons, and Vollies of Oaths, while they are fetter'd from throwing ought elſe, at one another's Heads. The moſt wretched here, Fare the beſt, and eat out of the Basket, while thoſe on the other ſide, are ready to eat them up. After a while I had made Remarks on the great Variety this Scene contains, Attendants were order'd to wait upon me to a Judge, to Sign my Paſs-port to theſe Realms, of which I after became an Inhabitant. I was firſt convey'd to a Structure in one of the Avenues, belonging to 'em, call'd (in the vulgar Term) *Bird-Cage-Alley*; and was not a little ſurpriz'd at the wonderful Transformations all ſuffer there; for they enter Woodcocks, continue Owls, and go out *Cackling* Birds; but (contrary to the manner in your World) the longer they're Coop'd, the Leaner they grow. But 'twere ingrateful to paſs over the Care took of us there; for leaſt we ſhou'd run into Dangers, by tumbling abroad in the Night-time, in a ſtrange Country, our Doors are faſt Lock'd and Bolted upon us; and ſince many, when their Heads are diſturb'd with new Adventures, are apt to walk in their Sleep, and miſtaking the Doors, to go out at the Windows, thoſe there, are ſet thick with Iron Bars, to prevent ſuch Miſchiefs. None but Perſons of Condition, have the Privilege of this Palace, who come with Letters of Recommendation to the Prince, and the Price of their Liberty, which when purchas'd, they have the freedom of ranging throughout the Empire; but if they preſume beyond its Limits, a parcel of Furies, in the Shape of Eſcape-Warrants, lie in wait, to hurry them to next Goal, from whence there is no Redemption, 'till clear'd of all they're charg'd with; which Treſpaſs was carefully avoided by, Sir,

Yours, &c.

LETTER II.

SIR,

I Undertook in my last to prove this to be another World, distinct from yours, which I doubt not easily to demonstrate, since our Politics, Morals, Conversation, Dress, and every thing differs from yours. Liberty and Property, so valu'd by you, we look upon as Obstacles to true Happiness, for we think no Man ought to be trusted with the first, by reason it proves oftner, Instrumental to his Distruction, than to his Edification; and the last, being but Burthensome, every one quits it, before he approaches our Shoars. *To do as we wou'd be done by*, we have found by dear Experience, when among you, to be a meer Chymerical, Impracticable Notion, therefore loose no time, by inculcating it here. Conversation is esteem'd by you, in Proportion to the many Thousands Men Possess, but by us, by the Thousands they're less than nothing; therefore a Man that breaks for an Hundred Thousand Pounds, scorns to keep Company with one, who breaks for an Hundred. A Demand of Debt, which fowrs People of your World, sets 'em all a Laughing here, for they look on the Demandant as a Merry Andrew come to divert 'em; but if a Debtor Promises, he is suspected of Treason to the Constitution, or sent to a Mad-House: Yet these Things happen not, but when a Dun arrives, unacquainted with our Rules of Arithmetic; for most here are willing to Pay, even to the last Numerical Pound, all we differ in is, you reckon Twenty Shillings to the Pound, and we but Two and Six-pence, and the Proverb you allow of, justifies us herein, *That all who go to* Rome, *must do as* Rome *does*, with you the Creditor is Caress'd, with us the Debtor, and the first only liable to Punishment, if he transgresses the Decorum of the Place; which is, to be thrown into the black River *Lethe*, on our Western Borders, 'till he forgets all former Passages of his Life, and is thence render'd more receptive of our Mode of Speech, Good Cloaths so much esteem'd there, are scandalous here, by giving a Jealousie of conveying away the Wealth of the Nation. To pull out a Watch is taken for an Affront to the Company, as design'd to set Limits to good Conversation; and are so rarely seen, that upon producing one lately, several were ready to give upon Oath, that it was a Living Creature: But one after arriving with a Silver Hilted Sword, all concluded it to be a flaming Meteor, whose appearance must needs be on some Portentuous Account; this made many endeavour to recollect their Prayers, which they had forgotten these twenty Years. Some here will talk of Golden Snuff-Boxes, Diamond Rings, &c. they were formerly Masters of, but so obscurely, that their Images appear almost worn out of their Memories. With you the Father keeps Possession, and Maintains the Son, with us the Son is often put into Possession

and

and Maintains the Father. There the Husband Travels, and the Wife keeps at Home, Here the Husband keeps at Home, and the Wife goes Abroad. We have a *Mint*, as well as You, but Yours Coins Money, Ours only Melts it down. You walk about to get a Stomach to your Dinner, we do the ſame, to get a Dinner to our Stomachs. An Execution is Hanging with You, but here it ſaves a Man, ſo that many an one hath liv'd after it, to ſee all his Sons Hang'd before Him, thus every Thing is tranſacted in direct reverſe to what it is in your World. I am,

Sir, &c.

LETTER III.

SIR,

IN your Anſwer to my laſt, you appear a little impatient to be Inform'd under what Denomination, this World may paſs; I had ſatisfy'd your Curioſity herein before, had not my Ignorance thereof till now prevented me. The Truth is, no People under the Species of Humankind, are ſo little anxious for improving their Knowledge, as thoſe of this Country; their enquiry rarely reaching further, than to ſatisfy themſelves, how to Dine, and how to ſpend the Day after: And there is certainly a kind of Felicity in this Temper, ſince diſcovery more increaſes a Thirſt after Knowledge, than gives Satisfaction to it: However a Diſpute on that very Subject, happening two Days ſince, very luckily for your Information, I ſhall give you the Particulars of it. Several of the Learned meeting together, a few uncommon Cups, fir'd their Ambition for making ſome Diſcoveries, beyond what they are uſually inclin'd to, when particularly, the Queſtion you are ſollicitous about was ſtarted; but ſuch Debates not being very frequent, they were manag'd with a little Confuſion at firſt, till at length they agreed to chooſe a Committee and Chair-man by Balloting, which being done, a young Pedant (ſent hither by an Infidel of an Hoſteſs) addreſſing himſelf to a Chair-man, ſaid: In my Opinion this muſt be that Infernal Region, under the abſolute Juriſdiction of *Pluto*, of which the Poets have given ſo large an Account, from the Analogy it bears, to the Relation they have given of that Place, and of the Sufferings of the Perſons Confin'd in it. *Firſt*, Becauſe all paſs to it over the Fatal River *Styx* (by you call'd the *Thames*) and ſo very few of them return again to the World from whence they came. Then on the Weſtern ſide rouls the black River *Lethe*, whoſe Stench and Stagnation are of ſo expunging a Quality, that when any Bailiffs, or ill-manner'd Creditors, are thrown into it, all former Images of Barbarity, preſently vaniſh from their Memo-

ries,

ries, and they riſe up again as tame Monſters, as Heart can wiſh. All are alſo hurry'd hither by Furies, in the Shapes of Serjeants, Bailiffs, Tipſtaves, *&c.* There's *Cerberus* alſo (under the Name of Turn-Key) who muſt be Brib'd with a Silver Sop, or no Mercy is to be expected; and tho' he has not three Heads, he may have as much Miſchief in one, as the other in all three. Thoſe on the Gentlemen's ſide, endure the Torment of *Tantalus*, by ſeeing the common ſide, Chop up all the Victuals in the Basket, which they in vain Gape for. The Puniſhment of the *Bellides*, is here to be met with in every Corner, inflicted on thoſe, who let all their Friends beſtow on them, paſs thro' 'em, as thro' a Sieve, ſtill leaving 'em in *ſtatu quo*. Great Numbers ſuffer the Plague of *Siſyphus*, who are daily coming to a Concluſion with their Creditors, but ſtill the *Stone* rouls back with additional Force, againſt their declining ſtrength to raiſe it. Many Languiſh alſo under the Miſery of *Prometheus*, while *Famine* (that Voracious *Vulture*) not only Gorges it ſelf on their *Livers*, but alſo on their *Lights*, *Lungs*, and other Vital Parts: With all other Tortures which the *Fiends* their *Creditors*, can impoſe upon 'em. The Power of the Monarch likewiſe over the Liberty of his Subjects, is abſolute beyond any Preſident in your World, and *Pluto*'s extends not to Life it ſelf. To this a *Poet* reply'd, I can by no means accord with that Gentleman in his Opinion of this World; it appears very abſur'd to fancy it *Hell*, when we meet not one *Uſurer* in it, and ſo very few *Lawyers*; Nay the moſt Villainous of Mankind, *Bailiffs*, very rarely touch on our Shoar. I rather take it to be *Elyſium*; ſince it ſeems a ſoft Retirement from the Fatigues of Life. No Noiſes of Ravage, Plunder, Sacrilidge, nor ſo much as the Rumour of Wars reach our Ears. No *Extortioner* ſhews his Teeth here, to grind the Face of the Poor. No harſh Dictates of the Law affect us: But each with a Tranquil and Serene Breaſt, leads his Beauteous, and Seraphic Nimph, to ſhady Groves, and Purling Streams.——At this a Sow'r Gentleman ſtarted up, and Cry'd, *Hold, hold*, Mr. *Poet*, thus 'tis always with you, when you have got into your Flights, and your Fiddle Faddles; to miſtake Naſty Drabs in St. *George*'s *Fields*, for Seraphic Nimphs, and the ſtinking Ditch by the Bowling Green, for Purling Streams; I tell you flatly, and am Poſitive in't, 'tis neither *Heav'n* nor *Hell*; not the firſt, becauſe Mint Rags, will hardly paſs for Robes of Glory; nor the laſt, by reaſon the *Devil* can't endure a *Poet*, he ſo out-does him at his own Trade of *Lying*; therefore it can be nothing elſe but directly Purgatory, and I'll dye in the Faith of it; for it not only Purges a Man's Purſe, but alſo his Heart, Blood and Guts, e'er he has been here a Twelve Month. There is *Peter Paunch*, he brought with him laſt Year, four hundred Pounds of Fleſh, *Averdupoiſe* Weight, and now you may draw him thro' a Gold Ring; Nay, I am told, when we have been here Sev'n Years, they make Skittle Pins of our Bones. A grave Philoſophic Gentleman oppos'd to this; Your Arguments will not hold, to prove it Purgatory, for our Purſes are well Purg'd before we come hither, and generally have caſt their laſt Calves, and as for an Abſte-

mi ous

rious Diet, I think it so far from being an Obstacle to true Happiness, that 'tis often a Promoter of it, since Health both of Body and Mind are preserv'd thereby; and by what has been alternately Discuss'd before, it can neither be *Heav'n* nor *Hell*, therefore in my poor Judgment, it may not be improper to Style it by some new Name; what if we call it the *Phantastic World*, since so full of whimsical Circumstances, running Counter in all the Transactions in it, to what we formerly receiv'd for the Dictates of Reason: After all had a while revolv'd on the Notion, and Retir'd within themselves, for the Opinion of their Informing Faculties, they unanimously agreed, that this Epithet was most Significant and Comprehensive. This is all the present account can be given by, *Sir*,

Yours, &c.

LETTER IV.

Sol. R.

SINCE you have so kindly receiv'd, what my Inclination prepar'd for your Entertainment, I shall with the more alacrity proceed in the Task I have undertaken. 'Tis held for a general Maxim, *That all ought to defend the Reputation of the Government which Protects 'em, and the Character of their Fellow Subjects, as tending to promote their own*; I being not only Naturaliz'd here, but also preferr'd to the Dignity of a *Bencher*, shou'd be wanting in my Duty, did I not discharge it, perticularly in this Point. Our *Government* is Absolute and Dispotic, beyond that of *France*, or the *Grand Signior*; for our Monarch can restrain the Liberty of his Subjects at Pleasure, without giving other Reason for it, than that it is his Pleasure so to do: a Power frequently exerted by his Predecessors, when ever a Fit of the Spleen came over them, or a Difficiency in their Exchequer provok'd 'em to it. As such Government is the worst in the World, when a Tyrant sits at the Helm, so it is the best, when a Wise and mild Prince fills the Throne, as at present happens; for He is so far from insulting the Liberty of his Subjects, thas (his just Tribute paid, a Trifle comparative to the Immunities obtain'd for it) He often generously entertains 'em, and in such a curteous manner, that it softens all their Sufferings. We are under no perticular Laws, which shew we come nearer to the *State of Innocence*: and I confess I was never so much mistaken in any thing as in the Opinion I conceiv'd of the People here, before I liv'd among 'em; I imagin'd them to be a parcel of Profligate, Lewd Rakes, who by Riotous Living, became Insolvent, and so came hither to defraud their Creditors: whereas I find now, 'tis Malice, Revenge, Impatience, or Circumvention, brought

brought 'em all hither, and not a Man of 'em but cou'd have paid Forty or Fifty Shillings *per* Pound, had they fair Dealing, or a little time allow'd 'em: This is the Voice of all when they arrive; 'Tis true, they generally ſpeak it to an unbelieving Audience, but want of Faith in the Hearer, ought not to reflect on the Character of the Relater. Vice Reigns not here Comparatively to what it does in your World; if a Man, gets Drunk one Day, he uſually does Pennance for it, by Faſting three Days after; If one finds an Appetite to a Wench, too ſtrong for his Reaſon to controul, he however endeavours to Mortify it, by taking up with ſuch a dirty, ill-favour'd Drab, as may give him a Loathing to the ſame Sport, a long time after. Nor need we a Statute to limit Gaming to Ten Pounds, for our Bowling ſeldom exceeds a Sice, our Back Gammon, a Mug of Ale, and our Cards, a Pipe of Tobacco. Perhaps you'll put on a ſarcaſtical Fleer, and ſay all theſe Negative Virtues ariſe from want of Money, and not of Inclination; but ſince every thing has two Handles, 'Tis no news that People (thro' the depravety of Humane Nature,) ſhou'd take all by the worſt. *Pimps*, *Bullies*, *Bands*, *Punks*, &c. are never Naturaliz'd here, but halt at the *Marſhalſea*, and other Receptacles for ſuch Vermine on your ſide; not being able to defray the Charge of their *Paſſport* hither: Perhaps ſome may ſhelter in the *Mint*, but that (tho' on our Borders) is a ſeparate *Common-wealth* (of which I may give ſome further account in a following Letter) and as we own no Alliance to it, ſo we are not accountable for their Crimes. *Miſers*, *Uſurers*, and *Extortioners*, thoſe barbarous Villains, who are Nouriſh'd by the Tears of Widows, and Orphanes, and Swarm ſo among you, are perfect Strangers here: Nor do the Ancient Records of our Kingdom, take notice of above one of thoſe Infamous Wretches, that ever was brought hither; and that was by Miſtake, at a *Miſer's Feaſt*; where he was taken for his Twin-Brother, of an Oppoſite Inclination; but after he had been ſhewn about ſome time for a Monſter, our Land Spew'd him up, leaſt he ſhou'd Debauch the Inhabitants thereof. On the Contrary, it is well known, that this World is Peopled, with the moſt Noble, Bountiful, and Generous Spirits of yours; who having arriv'd to that Celebrated Pitch of Philoſophy, *The Contempt of Money*, diſpers'd it frankly Abroad: And that 'tis on their Munificence, thoſe remaining with You, have built their Fortunes: Nay of ſo excellent a Quality is our Climate, that they who bring over with 'em, any Remains of Pride and Ambition, have 'em ſoon purg'd away by it. As for *Religion*, there is little Noiſe of it here, and 'tis generally obſerv'd, there is moſt of it, where there is the leaſt Noiſe of it; however *Gold* is worſhip'd here, as well as by you, but with a ſublimer Notion of that Deity, for we believe it *Inviſible*, and by Conſequence, Spiritual, while you adore it under a groſs Corporeal Form; but in other Articles we agree with you, except in your *Creed*, for our People have been ſo often deceiv'd in your World, that they bring very little *Faith* over with 'em: Tho' I my ſelf have retain'd ſo much, as to believe your Friendſhip will be perpetual towards, Sir,

C *Yours, &c.*

LETTER V.

SIR,

I Receiv'd the favour of your last in the Evening, just after I had made Remarks, on the several Professions of my Fellow Subjects, which happens very *a propos*, to the Contents of your Letter, since they seem level'd at the same Object: Therefore I shall now communicate all that has as yet fallen under my Observation of that kind. We have an Incredible Number of Captains here, perhaps enough to Head all the Armies in *Europe*; for if any Man can produce witness, that he has stedfastly for half an hour look'd on a brown Musket, without shaking; or wrapt up in Buff, has made a Figure in the Train-bands, it gives him his Choice of a Troop of Horse, or Company of Foot: Also if one can give Evidence, that he has cross'd the *Herring Pond*, and smelt to a Bowl of Punch, he next way is dub'd Captain of a Man of War; These Hero's are so jealous for maintaining their Honour, that they'll rather fast nine Days, than Mortgage the cold Iron by their sides for a Dinner: They talk frequently of sending *Pieces of Paper*, but their Loyalty to their Prince so wisely Curbs their Fury, that their *Challenges* seldom proceed to *Thrusts*, because they have a Notion that if a Man is kill'd under *Execution*, it may prove Detrimental to his Government: Certainly such *Conduct*, Joyn'd with so much Courage, wou'd render 'em Invincible on a Just Occasion. However they shine clearly out in other Qualifications of a Soldier, *viz.* Brandy, Tobacco, and a Drab in St. *George's* Fields. Another great part of the Inhabitants are rank'd in the Class of Gentlemen; what tho' a Man was got on a Bulk, took in by the Parish, and after put out by 'em to a Thimble-maker; the very Track of such Mechanical Operations is raz'd out of their Memories; They walk about at their ease, put on wise Looks to talk on State Affairs: extreamly satisfy'd, when they hear Titles and Garters are dispos'd of to their Likings; wonderful sollicitous for an Honourable Peace; anxious under Apprehensions of an Inglorious one; and when they can Muster up a Sice, loose it with an Air at the Bowling Green, and next Day Dine on three half-penny worth of Beef, and Porrage into the Bargain. We have also abundance of *Merchants*, for if a Man has adventur'd a pair of Silk-Stockings to *Spain*, and had in Return a Pound of Snuff, it sufficiently Intitles him to that Denomination, and to the enlarging upon the Subject, with how many Thousands he has lost by Storms, Wrecks, *&c.* and twice as much taken by the *French*. You shall often hear of Losses sustain'd by some in one Year, which amount to fifty times more, than they and all their Ancestors were worth, ever since their Names first came in with the *Saxons*. But what is unaccountable, most of 'em have lost more since they came in, than in all their Lives before; for it has been observ'd, that a Person, who at his entrance, has given a Modest account of Five Thousand Pounds, in a few Years, has rais'd it to Fifty; not that these are very pernicious Lies, because no Body is deceiv'd by 'em. These

form the Ignorant, when we may expect *Mails*. Their Converſation conſiſts chiefly in Speculations on Degrees of Latitude, runing thro' all the Points of the Compaſs, Prognoſticating the Effects of the South-Sea Trade, Temperature of Climates, meaſuring Diſtances, *&c.* which they do for refreſhing their Memories, otherwiſe ſome have been here ſo long, they wou'd forget what Occupation they follow'd, *Shop-keepers* come over in Flights, like Wood-Cocks in Winter, the wiſer ſort (like broken Bones well Set) Compound with their Creditors, and go out Richer than they came in: The reſt, conſume the little Subſtance they have left, at Skittles, after adjourn to the Bench, and at laſt ſleep with their Fore-fathers. As for *Lawyers*, they have generally Knavery enough, to keep 'em on your ſide the Water, if a Qualm happens to come over 'em, and they begin to grow Honeſt, we have 'em preſently, but ſo very poor, that their firſt ſtep is to the Bench and Basket. *Poets* we have here alſo, but they drink ſo little Wine, and are ſo rarely ſeen to Eat, that 'tis Imagin'd, they have found out means for obtaining *Nectar* and *Ambroſia*, the Repaſt of the Gods, and chiefly ſubſiſt thereon: By declining ſuch groſs Nouriſhments they were formerly familiar with, their Bodies are become meer Airy Vehicles, more favouring thereby the ſtrong Energy of their Souls; on which account we are in Expectation of abundance of *Sublime*; when I am made happy by ſome Specimens of it, they ſhall be faithfully communicated to you by, Sir,

Your, &c.

LETTER VI.

SIR,

SINCE you are pleas'd to deſire ſome account of the *Modes*, and *Airs*, which the People of this World diſcover in their Converſation, I ſhall endeavour to anſwer your Expectation herein. They are really much the ſame, as in the Courts of your *European* Princes, and in ſome Caſes the Points of Civility are carry'd a little beyond what is to be met with there; which in time may render 'em Preſidents, worthy Imitation; for they are a very PROMISING People, as even the ſevereſt of their Creditors will acknowledge. Here are ſome who have the Prince's Ear, who are extream Courteous and Obliging; ready to imbrace all Opportunities to ſerve you, and will proceed (Juſt as at your Courts) in Proportion to pay; if you forget that, they forget you, as thinking it not good Manners, to act Counter to yours; but *Duns* ſhew a thouſand times more good breeding than with you, there they are ſurly, knit their Brows and Threaten, here they mildly Intreat, and not beyond what may conſiſt with your Convenience. Our *Benchers* have the like Immunities in Term time, as your Members of Parliament have during their Seſſions, but with this Diſtinction

ſtinction to their Advantage, theſe walk ſtrictly by *Rule*, even when they are indulg'd with the greateſt Liberty, while thoſe act ſo exorbitantly then, that they are often brought hither after, to learn a better *Decorum*. Entertainments on Viſits alſo are extream Courtly, a Tale of a new Adventure ſupplies the Room of a Bottle of Wine, and ſo your humble Servant. They have ſuch an Averſion to a Foppiſh Air in Dreſs, that they ſeldom Diſguiſe their Wigs with Powder, nor are extream ſollicitous for the Preſervation of their Teeth, having not much occaſion for them; however they who have clean Linnen, wear it, and they who have not, with a great deal of Philoſophy deſpiſe it. We are frequently invited to Dinner at good Tables, but they are better Bred, than to offer it *Gratis*, leaſt it ſhou'd be taken as an Affront to our Misfortunes. The better ſort of Marry'd People, lead their Lives much like your Quality, ſpeak to one another Civilly, Love one another indifferently, and for avoiding Curtain-Lectures, the *Thames* often parts their Beds. The Unmarry'd keep as they are, from an Obſervation, that many are brought hither by their Wives, but few are carry'd back by 'em. The Children are very happy, for owing nothing to their Parents, but their Being, they are very rarely ruin'd by Indulgence, and as ſeldom tempted at one and twenty to that wicked Option, *Pray Father pleaſe to dye*. Pride, State, and Ambition, are perfect Strangers here, and to continue them ſo, our Inhabitants before their Arrival, wiſely rid themſelves of all Fuel may feed thoſe noxious Flames. Flattery never diſguiſes our Converſation, becauſe never Rewarded, nor is Friendſhip commenc'd on Mercenary Ends, ſince all depended on it, is a Good Morrow, for which Reaſons, Obligations never grow a Burden; as yours muſt of neceſſity become to me, except I can find an opportunity, by ſome piece of Service to evince how much I am, Sir,

Yours, &c.

LETTER VII.

SIR,

I Shou'd give you a very imperfect account of theſe Territories, did I not acquaint you, that they contain two Species of *Government*, one is *Abſolute Monarchy*, and of which I have been a Subject; the other *Democracy*, and extends its Juriſdiction throughout that part of the Country known by the Name of the *Mint*, which Government is exercis'd by a *Triumvirate*, call'd Stewards; who ſit to diſpatch Affairs of State, at three Principal Offices, which are at ſo many Entrances into their Dominions. Each of theſe is attended by ſix Repreſentatives of the People, who bear the Character of *Beadles*, with their Subaltern Officers, under the Appellation of *Spirits*; theſe execute the Commands of their Rulers. The People of this Government, are known by the Denomination of *Shelterers*; while we are dignify'd by the Title of *Benchers*. There happen'd at at a Coffee-Houſe here laſt Week, to be a mixt Company of *Benchers* and *Shelterers*, among

among whom a Diſpute aroſe, which were to be accounted moſt *able*. The firſt Alledg'd, that their Government being *Monarchical*, muſt be allow'd the moſt Glorious Species of Dominion, and that from the moſt Illuſtrious Preſidents: That one *Supreme Being* rul'd in Heav'n; One *Sun* Govern'd the Day, one *Moon* the Night; The *Beaſts* acknowledg'd the *Lion's* Supremacy; the *Birds*, the *Eagles*, &c. The *Shelterers* added, and one *Devil* Rules in Hell, doubtleſs the Damn'd much value their Happineſs upon it: But allowing the *Monarch's* proper Station to be Glorious, the Subjects ſuffer Slavery, Comparatively to the Immunites enjoy'd by a *Free-People*. Upon that ſaid a *Nutral Perſon* (who had Superceeded his Action, which render'd him a *Priſoner*, but continued a *Shelterer* for fear of more) Let us decline Arguments on Government in General, and ſtick to the Merits of the Cauſes, which brought us all hither, and allow the Preference to that Party, which can plead moſt Honour in their proper Circumſtances. On that (ſaid the *Benchers*, we come hither in a Legal way, having Honourably ſurrender'd to our Bail; You come in Defiance of the Legiſlative Power, where you liv'd; and Maintain your Selves here by Force and Violence, like the *Banditti* and *Wild Arabs*. Said the other, if you value your Selves ſo much upon being *Priſoners*, 'tis what we all might have been with Eaſe, had we been ſo Charm'd with that Condition of Life, as to have Sacrific'd our *Entire Liberty* to it. You might, indeed, (ſaid the others) have been Priſoners, and Dependants on the *Basket*, but few of you are able to purchaſe *Chamber-Rent* and the *Rules*, or have ſo much Reputation left, as to procure Security for the laſt: We ſtay Abroad as long as we can, in hopes of proving *Solvent* to our Creditors, you come only with Deſign to Defraud 'em. But you muſt Grant (Anſwer'd the *Shelterers*) that all our Proceedings are Mannag'd by the ſtricteſt Rules of Honour after our Arrival to this Place, which may Attone for former Slips; when a *Bailiff*, his *Follower*, or *Setter*, are but ſuſpected to be ſuch, a Jury Sits on him for Probation, before Execution. We neither Protect a Perſon who has refus'd to Surrender to his Bail, nor a Bankrupt, who has not ſubmitted to Conditions impos'd by Law; nor yet a Raſcal, who has newly taken up Goods, on purpoſe to Cheat Honeſt Men; this all the World ſay of us, the World (argu'd the *Benchers*) do ſay this of you, but not in Reſpect to your Reputation, but rather by way of *Sarcaſm*, that ſuch a Villain, not *even Shelterers* will Protect. Admitting (ſaid the *Shelterers*) your Honour outſhines ours; yet our Liberty exceeds yours; one Day in Sev'n being our own, where we pleaſe; and many Wiſemen, have Sacrific'd their *Honour* to the Enjoyment of their *Liberty*. Many *Knaves* have (reply'd the other) but our *Liberty* every Day is more extenſive than yours: In Term time under Protection of a Ticket, we can Rove where we pleaſe with Impunity; and every Morning can go to Prayers at *St. George's Church*, into which you dare not thruſt your Noſes. As often as you *do* thruſt your Noſe, (ſaid the other) and we believe a Privation of that *Liberty*, wou'd as little Affect you, as us.—Upon this the Mob in the Sereet, Cry'd out, a

Bailiff,

...ution, and le t the *Benchers* the Glory of the Field. As Contests often arise here on ...ese Matters, so when any other Arguments are offer'd *Pro* or *Con*; the shall faithfully be convey'd to you by, Sir,

Yours, &c.

LETTER VIII.

SIR,

I Have hither'o declin'd giving any Account of the *Fair Sex*, because the Task is almost as difficult, as t wou'd be otherwise agreeable; since 'tis almost impossible to write any thing New on that Subject; but upon Re-cogitation, that some Qualifications shine more eminently in 'em here, than in those among you, I'll acquaint you with what has as yet come to my knowledge on that Head. The common sort appear, not only People of another World, but also to be Form'd out of other Matter, than those with you are; or rather out of a Complication of Ingredients; their *Hydes* of *Wenscoat*, their *Hearts* of *Marble*, and their Tongues of *Bell-Metal*: But, indeed, the Female Mob every where, are a kind of Antidotes, against all Inclinations to the Sex. But there are another sort, *viz.* Citizen's young Wives, who redeem the Reputation, the other loose; these used to be communicative of their Blessings, while among you, or all our *Poets* and *Ballad-Singers* are Romancers: But now their Opportunities give 'em greater Indulgence, from their Husband's Restraint, than they had on that side, from an Excuse to a Morning-Lecture, or a Visit to a Country Cousen. They have often occasion also, to visit young Lawyers at their Chambers, who are generally better bred, and of a more merciful Disposition, than to deny Succour to Ladies in Distress; nor is ths Husband much wrong'd hereby, since he may have sufficient left for himself: Besides how can he expect Relief in his Wants, when he refuses to others, an Over plus he has no occasion for. They have often frequent Opportunities for Assignations at *Shanks*'s Gardens, with our young *Benchers*, who are seldom brought hither, for being Bankrupt'd in their Stock of Assurance; it wou'd be very ungenerous to decline their Favours to such, as risk the Terrours of 'scape-Warrants for their Sakes, some ancient *Residents* likewise are here, who have young Daughters which have too much Filial Duty, to see their aged Parents want, when they can relieve 'em, and by such agreeable Means. But what we most abound in, are *Zantippe*'s; even enough to give occasion for the Founding a College of Philosophers; and such (as upon a just use made of their *Lectures*) might outshine *Socrates* himself. If he arriv'd to such a prodigious Fortitude of Mind, exemplify'd in the Virtue of Patience, under the Batteries of a *Clack*, he cou'd withdraw from at Pleasure, what sublimity had he reach'd, had his Ears been chain'd to it, as it happens here. Besi e, the *Zantippe*'s here, have much the advantage of Fuel to feed their Flames, over what his had, by eternally ringing out, *Are these the Effects of your Vows of everlasting Love, when you court d me, to bring me to a Prison at last! This the Consequence of your Matrimonial Vow, of endowing me with all your Worldly Goods, to run out on Drinking and Whoring all the Fortune I brought you!* Tho' the poor Man may be conscious that all his Misfortunes happen'd by unavoidable Accidents and Disappointments, or perhaps wholly occasion'd by her Vanity and Extravagancy, he must not oppose one Word to her *Juniper-Lecture*, for then away she is fled to her Friends, to inform 'em, he has not only ruin'd her, but to make her more miserable, is constantly abu ing of her, so gains a double share of Compassion, leaving him to starve. If *Socrates* improv'd his Philosophy in so high a Degree, by *Zantippe*'s Tongue, who was a *Dove* to these, to what a pitch of Virtue may our Philosophers aspire on Opportunities, so superior to his. But no more of these, least I have a Peal of 'em in mine Ears, which may disable me for a second Audience. We have also Ladies of the *Lake* here, but they are all Fire and Brimstone, and in a Fortnight's time, wou'd reduce the Fat Inn-keeper of *Chelmsford* (lately arriv'd) to a Skeleton: These usully ply in St. *George*'s-Fields, and what Passengers they

meet,

meet, will ſcarce be able to paſs that way again, a few days after. Theſe have a ſort of Governm. nt among 'em, and own a ſturdy Queen for their *Royal Sovereign*: one, who when ſh: meets with any Interlopers, beats 'em 'till they ſtink as bad as her ſ lf, which is in the ſame Degree with the black Ditch ſhe Borders upon; the bare Imagination whereof, has given me ſuch a Surfeit, that I hope it will plead a Pardon for this abrupt Concluſion of,

Sir, Your, &c.

LETTER IX.

SIR,

YOur Reflection is very juſt, that my Narrative will remain unperfect, 'till I give you ſome Account of our *Structures*, and how Inhabited; which I ſhall therefore take this Opportunity to repreſent to you. Our *Edifices* for the moſt part, hold rather Proportion, with thoſe of the ancient *Stoicks*, than of the *Epicurians*; and their Antiquity confutes that vulgar Error, that our Fore athers much exceeded us in Height, ſince a Middle-ſiz'd Man now, will near touch the Ceilings: However, were they Lofty, they wou'd hold with the Models of your Modern Palaces, *viz.* one Pair of Stairs and a Cock-loft. The Inſide-Walls retain their Original Whiteneſs, except where they are diſguis'd, with ſmoak, ſooty Serges, or the Story of *Nebuchadnezzar*; and tho' the Rooms are not ſcented with rich Gums, yet they ſmell full as ſtrong as if they were. The Landlady of the firſt I enter'd, I wou'd have ſworn to have been a Witch, by her Wayward Look, and her Brats, her Familiars. by their Frightful Aſpects, and was juſt upon enquiring of her, after the Doſting of an old Aunt of mine, who hath long grown too Good for this World; but that I ſoon found her Knowledge extended no further, than to ſet a Price upon her Lodgings, which was more for one Month, than all the Furniture of her Fabrick was worth, with her own Accoutrements thrown into the Bargain. However, this is a kind of a *Mock-London*, for we have our *Lombard-ſtreet* as well as you; but no Bankers in it, Lolling in their gilt Coaches, maintain'd by Extortion; no Lending of Money at 40 *per Cent.* Diſcount to young Merchants for defraying Cuſtoms, with a Pledge of well-ſtock'd Warehouſes for Security beſides. No ſupplying the Extravagances of young Heirs, to the Diſtruction of their Families, with the like Diſcounts, beſides Intereſt and a good Mortgage. No entring on Poſſeſſion of Eſtates, immediately upon Forfeiture, except a round Sum of Continuation-Money be inſtantly paid: So far are our *Lombardians* from coveting ſuch heaps of Gold by Oppreſſion, that few of 'em remember what Colour that Metal is of; but on the contrary, one ſhall be contented with the modeſt Profit he can raiſe from a Wheelbarrow of Turnips; another, inſtead of having his Shop glittering with poliſh'd Plate and Jewels, to the hurting the Eyes of Paſſengers, ſhall think it ſufficiently Furniſh'd with a parcel of Mouſe-Traps, Savealls and Nutcrackers, while their Wives inſtead of ſhining with Diamonds, Tiſſues, and Brocades, humbly content themſelves with Stalls of Gingerbread, Apples, and Cabbages; or with the Heeling of old Hoſe. Nor do they, like yours, require large Rooms with ſtately Furniture, for fear of being ſtifled in too ſtrait Compaſs, but frugally crowd a Family in a Room, where their Steam ſupplies the want of Coals, to keep 'em warm. One Tribe fills the Celler, where they Lye, Eat and Drink, and p rform all the other Offices of Nature; whoſe Vapours all aſcend, at the opening the Mouth of their Cav: in the Morning, to the Offence of none but queaſie Stomachs. The Rooms higher are ſtock d with ſo many Families of Shelterers, who are little Sollicitous for the Barricading their Apartments, ſince their happy Circumſtances put 'em out of danger of being plunder'd. We have alſo our *Exchange-Alley*, but it is not made a *Decoy* like yours, to Trepan all the fat Geeſe of the Nation: We have none of that curſed Brood of Brokers in it, who put their Tricks on honeſt Gentlemen, whoſe Honourable Principles leave no Room for Suſpicion. Tempting others from a certain Dependance, to their Ruin, in hopes of being Aldermen on the ſuddain: They who Inhabit

this

far from such pernicious Practices, That *Bank-Stock*, *East-India*, *Army Debentures*, &c. are direct *Arabic* to em; is one rum Bilk another of an old Waistcoat, in a Reckoning at Skittles, the ramming a Die, or of a Card at All-Fours, 'tis all the Cunning they pretend to. Here's but no Female Shop-keeper behind the Counter, tuck'd up like and all Fish below. No Airy Sempstresses disposing of their Heads, and their Tails to the *Beaux*: No *Indian* Houses to manage Intrigues between Spendthrift, and an old Alderman's young Wife. No sparkish Linnen-at a Horse-Race, their Wives at the Playhouse, and both their Fortune the mercy of a young Prig of a Prentice, who all the while is playing at Bo- the Chamber-Maid. No such Exorbitances as these Reign in this Place; but young Shop-keeper shall condescend to the Dispofal of old Rags, which appear Ani- while they are born about by Numbers of Living Supporters: Another to the a Footborn pair of Shoes; a third to the Correcting a pair of ancient Breeches, have out liv'd all their Original Materials; while their Wives are so far from the of Dress, that a strong blast of Wind wou'd leave 'em stark Naked; and much 'tis in all Streets *Synonymous* with yours. Tho' these Matters may appear course to those of an Elegant Taft; yet they of a more solid Judgment will confess, People in such humble Employments, may be more truly Honourable than those whose Greatness owes its Foundation, and Protection to Knavery. But I must not presume on your Patience to a Person, who has a Genius Infinitely Brighter for such Speculations,

Sir, Yours, &c.

LETTER X.

I apprehend by your last, that you design to expose my LETTERS to the Publick. I intreat the Favour at your Hands of adding the following Cautions. That tho' I seem'd to expose to Ridicule, Officers of the Army, Gentlemen, Poets, &c. I intended none of the Reflections on any, who are really such, well known; that we have divers here, under all those Denominations, who are, Esteemed, as full Gentlemen, of as bright Parts, and as much Honour, as any in who have been brought hither by unavoidable Misfortunes; and who thro' of their own just Principles, enjoy (even under Restraint) a more real and Serenity of Mind, than their Cruel Prosecutors. No, all the Sarcasms that such, whose Folly and Vanity is so great, that even Afflictions can- such as affect Attributes, in the lowest Ebb of Fortune, to which Foreigners in their most flourishing Circumstances. As such are the Jest of sure, so I hope a just Description of 'em may give you some Diversion, for to Persons of your Quality a *Terra Incognita*. Yet I have not gone like who fill up their Maps of such Places, with figures of their own Invention, Creatures, and some Monsters, but all of 'em such as those Countries know, no Sir, I can assure you the Rarities mention'd in these *Memoirs* and what *Hisce Oculis vidi*, I am, Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant, &c.

ERRATA.

for *Attendance*, read *Attendants*, Page 14, line 18, for *Particularly*,

FINIS.